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A STUDY IN ANCESTRY



*Being a History of the White Family
of Honey Brook, Pa.*



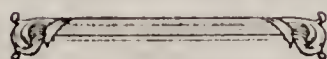
By Rev. Wm. P. White, D. D.

A History of the White Family

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1925

Recd. Feb 28-1979

A History of the White Family

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A Study in Ancestry

Genealogy has obtained increased prominence in this country during recent years.

Such inquiries as "Who was your great-grand father? Where did he live? What was his occupation? Where did he marry? And other like questions have come to be more generally asked than formerly.

A great deal of money has been spent in this country and in Europe in forming organizations and equipping them, for tracing the ancestry of certain families and compiling for publication their history and growth, and it is to be recommended as a laudable proceeding.

Family branches bearing the name of White in other sections of the country have heretofore moved in the matter and it is not without sufficient apology or justification that we of this section should join the procession.

As a family name White has been prevalent in all Angle-Saxon countries. It has been borne by those in comparatively humble walks of life as well as by those who have gained distinction in industry, in the learned professions and in the highest affairs of state.

While none of the name have attained to the Presidency of Our Land yet it has been borne by the Chief Justice of our Supreme Court, by Foreign Ambassadors, Senators, Governors of States and Congressmen without number.

The prevalence of the name is shown in directories and guide books where in number it ranks with Smith, Jones, Brown, Johnson, Wilson and other widely prevalent names. In the list of 10,000 Presbyterian ministers which I possess the name of White stands eighth. One hundred bearing the name are mentioned in "Who's Who in America."

As a name it has much to recommend it. It is short and easy to write and pronounce and is symbolic of spotlessness and purity.

Among the early settlers of our country the name appears in widely separated sections—in New England, the middle state colonies and in Virginia and the Carolinas.

I always recall with what interest I read in my early school days that the first child born to the pilgrims of the Mayflower was Peregrine White.

We have sufficient evidence for the belief that our first ancestors in this country came from the province of Ulster in the North of Ireland. They were of Scotch descent. They are generally spoken of as Scotch Irish because coming from Ireland but there was no admixture of the two races nor intermarriage with each other. Scotch people had crossed over to Ireland early in the Seventeenth Century attracted by the fertile lands left vacant by Irish owners because forced to flee the country on account of plots and conspiracies against the English government.

These Scotch settlers in Ireland were Protestants mainly Presbyterians and this explains why Ireland today is divided by diverse religious faiths, the South being Roman Catholic and the North Protestant. The countries settled by Scotch were mainly Down, Londonderry and Antrim.

"They", as has been frequently said, "made the religion into which moved through their industry, frugality and skill a rich and flourishing country. They improved agriculture and introduced manufactures and by the excellence and high reputation of their productions attracted trade and commerce to their markets."

Soon, however, the English government began to impose upon them heavy taxes and to embarrass them with stringent regulations upon their industries and trade. With the expiration of their leases, landlords increased largely their rents and many were reduced to comparative poverty.

Efforts were also made to force them to adopt the ritual and forms of worship of the English Church. Subjection to English customs and rule became so repulsive and degrading to these Scotch settlers that their patience was at length exhausted, and not willing to endure longer oppressive measures, they determined to seek another change of residence and find a freer field for the exercise of their industry and skill, and for the enjoyment of their religion, in the new country opening up beyond the sea.

During the latter part of the 17th Century and the greater part of the 18th, there were a number of emigrations from Ireland to America, some to one portion and some to another.

It is believed that our ancestors were among those who came to this country about 1718 and landed at New Castle, Delaware and moved northward and westward into the eastern and middle counties of Pennsylvania.

Says J. Smith Futhey, Esq. in writing the history of the Upper Octorara Presbyterian Church: "The first

settlement in this region of country was made by the Scotch Irish about the year 1718. They gradually spread over the whole western portion of Chester County from Maryland and Delaware on the south, to the chain of hills known as the Welsh mountains on the north; and the greater portion of the population of this district of country at the present day are their descendants. These early emigrants planted the old Presbyterian churches of New London and Oxford, Faggs Manor, Octorara and Brandywine Manor and these still abide in strength today."

I don't know how many of our family name there were among the emigrants who left Ireland and landed at New Castle. In a survey of southern Chester County between 1730 and 1760, I find among the township taxables and land owners, the frequent mention of those having the name of White. They are found in the townships of Birmingham, Nottingham, Oxford, Londonderry, Newlin and further north to Caln and Nantmeal.

Among the given names borne by them were John, Thomas, William, David, Samuel and Andrew. These are the same names familiar to us in the families with which we have been connected.

As our most probable earliest ancestor in this country and most probably, also, an emigrant from Ireland, we select Thomas White of Caln Township, Chester County, Pa. His will on file in West Chester drawn November 6, 1736 and proven May 3, 1737 mentions his wife Ann and children; Jean, Thomas and John, evidently minors as he appoints others as executors and his brother John as overseer.

The son Thomas mentioned we are inclined to believe was later the Thomas White of Caln and Brandywine townships whom we know to have been our great grandfather; that is the father of William White, Senior, of Honey Brook, of whom we all here are descendants.

Of him we know but little. He died young, in 1778, leaving a widow and several young children.

Of his widow, Rachel White, our great grandmother, we have a somewhat interesting record. She was the daughter of William Littler of Caln Township, who dying in 1774, left her 106 acres of land to be surveyed to her off the place where she then lived.

On the death of her husband two years later, 1778, she took out letters of administration on his estate and as the mother of a family of children and manager of temporal affairs, she exhibited for a woman of that time, unusual energy and enterprise. In the year 1781 she was assessed in the east Caln township on 350 acres of land, two horses,

two cattle and a distillery. The possession of the latter at that time was viewed very differently from that of later times, and without the prejudice attaching to it. It was one of the means for the marketing of grain not otherwise able to be disposed of for lack of transportation.

A few years later in the interests of her children she was granted by the court, permission to sell part of her land. She is mentioned as a pewholder in the history of the Brandywine Presbyterian Church and a contributor in 1792-96 to the building of a stone wall around the graveyard. She died in 1807. Her will was proved May of that year. In it she mentions her son, William, three grandchildren of her deceased daughter, Elizabeth Green, her daughter, Rachel Thompson, her daughter, Ann White, her daughter, Martha White, afterwards Martha MacAdam, her son John White, who was left 80 acres of land of the north end of the plantation, and her son Thomas White to whom she left all the balance of the estate both real and personal.

This son Thomas remained single and at his death a few years later bequeathed the home farm left to him to his younger brother William and made him one of the executors of his estate.

We thus learn that our grandfather, and great grandfather of most of you, William White, was a native of Brandywine. He was born July 11, 1772, during the Revolutionary War and five years before the battle of Brandywine, incidents of which he could remember and later related to grandchildren. He grew up on a farm about a mile east of Brandywine Presbyterian church near the present road to Coatesville. He learned the trade of carpenter and followed it in connection with that of farming. He remained in Brandywine for some years and to him was born here his six children. About 1798 he was married to Mary Graham of what was then West Nantmeal, later becoming a portion of Honey Brook. This acquaintance was doubtless formed through their connection with the same church, that of Brandywine Manor Presbyterian, and she was brought as a bride to his home in Brandywine, probably in the old fashioned two wheel gig with leather springs, one of the few vehicles then in use and the common conveyance at the time of those who could afford it. Most travelled long distances by horseback, carrying frequently two children, one front of them and one back of them.

I remember very well as a boy that gig of grandparents as stored in a shed and incapacitated for use.

Having traced the ancestry of our grandfather, William White, it is proper and desirable to trace the ancestry of our grandmother, Mary Graham White. She was born Jan.

26, 1773, and was the daughter of Michael Graham and Margaret Kittera Graham, the owners of a farm about a mile north of Honey Brook Borough. She was one of a family of nine children, three brothers and six sisters. All of them married; three of the sisters married men of the name of Jones, one a Bunn and one a Happersett. The younger brother, James Stevenson Graham, popularly known as Stinse Grimes, continued to live on the farm inherited from his father and I recall how he and his neighboring brother-in-law, William White, both aged, were frequent associates.

Michael Graham, our maternal ancestor, was the son of James and Mary Graham of Honey Brook. James Graham was the possessor of considerable land and was also a slave owner, being permitted at that time by the laws of Pennsylvania.

In his will, a copy of which I possess, dated 1779, he bequeaths to heirs along with other property, two "negro boys"; one of these negro boys named "Jack" was bequeathed to his son Michael or "to his heirs or assigns forever." The father of James Graham, our ancestor three generations back, also named James, was a resident of West Caln township. The Grahams were numerous in northern Chester County during the 18th century and the early part of the 19th. They were mostly land owners and possessed large families. I recall one of eleven children. They were of Scotch descent and must have come to America early in the 18th Century. Our nearest ancestors of the family, Michael Graham, who died Jan. 8, 1814, aged 68, and wife Margaret, who died 1838, age 83, and their parents, James Graham, who died in 1783, and wife, Mary, who died in 1809, aged 62, are buried in the Pequea Presbyterian Cemetery and their graves are prominently marked.

The mother of our grandmother, Mary Graham White was Margaret Kittera Graham, the daughter of Thomas Kittera and grand daughter of John Kittera, of East Earl, Lancaster county. It was a family of considerable distinction. Altho the name is now extinct, it has left its descendants in numerous families of Lancaster County,—the Davies, Fulton, Hall, Diller, Wallace and others.

In 1749 a warrant for 270 acres of land in East Earl township, Lancaster County was granted to John Canary, alias Kittera. A warrant had been issued in 1738 to James Canary, Alias Kittera, but the conditions not being fulfilled, it remained void. James may have been the father of John He died in 1855 and is buried at Pequea. A singular fact in connection with the family is that two names are mentioned in the early records that of Canary and Kittera. In

the court records of the marriage of our great grandparents it reads "Michael Grimes and Margaret Canary. Which of the two, "Canary" or "Kittera" was the original and the cause of the change is left in doubt; as is also the origin of the family, altho authority mostly favors Scotch Irish.

John Kittera died in 1772 and a large elevated stone slab marks his grave in Pequea Presbyterian Cemetery. His son Thomas and wife Hannah Anderson, parents of Margaret K. Graham, came into possession of the East Earl farm. Thomas was an early and prominent elder of Pequea church under the pastorate of Dr. Robert Smith. He was active also in township affairs and instrumental in establishing schools and advancing the cause of education. He died Oct. 22, 1872 aged 60 years and 8 months. He was buried in the Pequea Presbyterian Cemetery and along with his father, John Kittera, who died in 1772, aged 78, is commemorated on the elevated slab over his grave in the following lines:

"In this cold tomb together laid,
By kindred hands to earth consigned,
Both turned to dust the debt is paid,
That nature claims for all mankind.
Thou Stranger that shall come this way
From them thy fair example take;
Though both here lie enwrapped in clay
The just once more to life shall wake.
Like them in virtue's noble road
Pass worthily this little span
Virtue exalts the mind to God,
His noblest work an honest man."

These were our maternal ancestors of half a century ago.

The son of Thomas Kittera and sister of Margaret Kittera Graham, our great grandmother, was John Wilkes Kittera, who graduated from Princeton University in 1776, the year of the Declaration of Independence, studied and practiced law in Lancaster and was chosen as first congressman from the Chester and Lancaster district, serving as such for two terms. He was then appointed United States District Attorney for the eastern district of Pennsylvania. His son Thomas Kittera, graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, in 1805, became a lawyer of prominence in Philadelphia, was Deputy Attorney General of Pennsylvania, served as member of Congress from Philadelphia and also of Select Council of the city. He was also "Right Worshipful Grand Master of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and his portrait in oil, by the distinguished portrait painter, Sully, is prominently displayed in the Masonic Temple, Broad and Juniper Street, Phil-

adelphia. A connection of this family became the first Mayor of the consolidated city of Philadelphia, Mayor Conrad and another was connected with the family of Governor Snyder of Pennsylvania, with whom your historian had a pleasant correspondence a few years ago.

From this digression we return to our more immediate ancestors, William and Mary Graham White. They continued as residents of Brandywine, where all their children were born, until about 1810 when a farm was purchased in Heney Brook, a mile north of the present borough, adjoining that of the father-in-law, Michael Graham. From thence went all his children to form homes of their own except his youngest son, Michael Graham, who upon his marriage in 1837 to Catherine Dampman, of West Nantmeal, occupied jointly with parents, the home, enlarged for the occasion, and cultivated the farm on rental. He later purchased the farm and continued to hold it until his death, altho a few years previous removing on account of advanced age to the neighboring borough. It was rented by his son Rees H. White, Esq., and purchased by him at his father's death, and continued to be owned until a few years hence when sold to a stranger. It was hence in the possession of the family for considerably over 100 years.

Our grandmother, Mary Graham White, died in 1840 in her 67th year. Our grandfather remained on the place and was a member of his youngest son's family for quite a number of years. Your historian can truthfully say that he was his favorite grandson and was closely associated with him and was remembered quite handsomely for the time in a bequest. He was beloved by his grandchildren for his geniality and kindness until his death, not forgetting upon his return from visits abroad, to bestow upon them the usual sweetmeat gifts. Altho over 70 years of age, he was active and industrious, vigorous of body and alert in mind. He had a carpenter shop, well equipped with tools and delighted to work in it, making chests and stools for grandchildren, tables, desks and other household articles of furniture for the home, making repairs upon them as needed, and as occasion called for it, taking a hand in the harvest field. He was expert in the use of the sickle, grain in his early years being thus reaped. Well do I remember being carried on his back as a child, and later dropping corn for him to cover with a hoe, gathering the sheaves which he bound, riding behind him on a horse and reading to him the news from the paper and being commended by him for attention to his wants. He read his Bible, was a regular attendant upon church services, ere disabled by age, interested in civic affairs and

public enterprises, and performed faithfully his duties as a citizen and neighbor.

Our home becoming crowded by the increase of children, he became for a few years a resident elsewhere. His latest earthly home was with his oldest son, Uncle John, on a neighboring farm. On my occasion home from school, he spent Christmas with us. Complaining in the afternoon of not feeling very well, my father took him home on horse back. Shortly afterward came the news that he had suddenly expired with little pain, December 25, 1860, aged 87 years, five months and 11 days. His remains with those of his wife rest in the Honey Brook Presbyterian Cemetery.

As one from whom all here are descendants, it seemed appropriate that I should give this personal account of him.

We turn next to a brief review of the lives of his children and their descendants.

As has been indicated, William and Mary Graham White were the parents of five sons and a daughter; *John, Margaret, Thomas, David, Andrew and Michael Graham*. They all lived upright, honorable lives and were faithful in their obligations to the Church and society. We can look back to them with respect and thankfulness as our forbears.

For the sake of a record, it would seem proper that in the history of the family brief mention should be made of each of their descendants. Altho given dates of birth, marriages and deaths by some, I have not thought it best to include these as it would lengthen the record to too great an extent and would at best be but partial. They can be inserted by holders of printed copies.

John the oldest, born Sept. 3, 1800, married Elizabeth Piersol, three years his senior, altho she outlived him. The Piersol family were among the early settlers of northern Chester County and were probably of Welsh descent. John and Elizabeth, his wife, became possessors of a farm adjoining that of his father's bordering on the Welsh mountain and lived, and raised their children upon it, until their death. Your historian knew them intimately and oft enjoyed their kindness and highly regarded them as faithful industrious parents and dutiful neighbors and relatives. Especially did he enjoy at times his visits to their excellent apple orchard.

They were the parents of six sons and two daughters: **Mary, Rees, William, Samuel, Andrew, Jesse, Elizabeth and John**. The oldest daughter died in infancy. All the others grew up on the farm. None of them nor their wives are living. **Rees**, the oldest was the first to leave the parental

home. He learned the carpenter trade and married Mary Ann Long of Honey Brook. They had two children, Mary and Clara. Clara died unmarried. Mary married Amos Reel. Both are deceased. They had one child, Eva, who married Alvin R. Keller.

The second son William remained on the farm for some years before taking up a business for himself. He married Rachael Armstrong and lived for some years near Sadsburyville, Chester Co. There was born to him ten children as follows: J. Wesley, Charles, Margaret, William, Edwin, Arthur, Harry, Edith, Anna Bell, Florence. Nine of them married. J. Wesley, the oldest, married Fannie Nelms, who is deceased. They were without children; Charles married Ella E. Cunniff. They had one son, Charles, who married Sylvia Delvert who have a son Charles. Margaret remains single; William married Sarah Nelms and to them were born seven children: Ethel, Eva, Edwin, Wallace, Matora, Sarah, William Latta. Ethel married Frank Given. They have one child, Harold. Elva married John Burke. They have two children, Mary and Beatrice. Edwin married Edith Grubb. Their children are Rhoda, Lester, Foster, Vernon and Sara. Wallace remains single. Matora married J. Addison Martin. They have no children. Sara married Harlan Miller. They have two children, Robert and Jean.

Edwin the fifth of the children of William and Rachael White married Florence Kennedy. They have two children, Earl and Harold. Harold was overseas during the World War and Earl in home camp. Harold married Blanch Shoemaker. They have two children, Lillian and Genevieve.

Arthur, the sixth child of the same parents, married Eva Shirk. They have three children, Walter, Helen and Thelma. Of these, Walter, who was in the world war and was wounded. He married Mae Seldomridge. They have one child, Lawrence. Helen married George Stradling. They have three children, Mildred, George and Albert.

Harry, the seventh child of same parents married Cora Keiser. They have one child, Ruth, married to Howard D. Barnhart. They have one child, Jean. Edith, the eighth child of the parents above mentioned, married Jacob Wert and are without children. Anna Bell, the ninth child, is married to Ralph L. Hampton, the present Sheriff of Chester County. They are without children. Florence, the tenth and youngest daughter of William and Rachael White married Charles Crouse and have a child, Gertrude. The descendants of William White and Rachael, his wife, number 62.

Samuel, the third son of John and Elizabeth White, married Elizabeth Grube. They lived until their death on the farm possessed by their father. Their children were: Annie, Jacob, Emma, Mary and Laura. Annie married Evan Silknetter. Their one son, Arthur, married Eva Cummings. They have a daughter, Catherine. Jacob married Laura Stauffer. Their children are: Clara, Etta, Horace, Elizabeth, Clarence, Grover, Jacob, Mabel and Carroll.

Clara married Harvey Trego. Their children are: Gilbert and Mary. Etta married Martin Fisher. They have no children. Horace married Stella Ammon. Their children are: Genette, Kenneth, Hazel, Lillian and Awilda. Elizabeth married Parvin Kurtz. Their children are: Myron and John. Clarence married Bertha Happersett. They have one child, Betty; Grover died in camp of flu in the world war; Jacob married Stella Miller. They have one child, Mabel. Mabel married Frank Wilson. Their children are Harold and Marjorie. Carroll remains single.

Emma, the third child of Samuel and Elizabeth White, married Cyrus Silknetter. Their children are: Elva, Bertha, Laura, Warren, Edith, Gertrude, Matora and Virginia. Elva married W. M. Bell. Their children are: Paul, Wayne, Ruth, John, Elwood and Warren. Bertha married Reah Reynolds. They have no children. Laura is deceased. Warren married Ruth Merry. They have no children. Edith married Harry Weighfield. Their children are: Warren, Charles, Eugene and Richard. Gertrude married Irwin Vandergrift. They have one child, Harold. Matora and Virginia remain single.

Mary, the fourth child of Samuel and Elizabeth White, married B. Frank Davis. Their children are Effie and B. Frank. The latter, a physician in Downingtown, married Jane Connell.

Laura, the fifth child of Samuel and Elizabeth White, married Silas Bidden. Their children were: Ethel, Marion and Narrie. Ethel is deceased. Marion remains single. Narrie married Norman Piersol. They have one child, Winifred.

The descendants of Samuel White and Elizabeth, his wife, including those married by them, number 75. But three are reported to me as deceased.

The third son of John and Elizabeth White was **Andrew**. He removed early in life after learning the trade of cabinet maker, to Philadelphia, where he followed carpentry and contracting. He married Emma Lovering. They had two children, Helena and Laura. Helena married

Walter Bell. Both are deceased. They had one child, Albert. Laura married Lyman Snyder. They had no children.

Jesse, the fourth son of John and Elizabeth White, learned the carpenter trade. He removed to Cambridge, Ohio in the sixties and married Margaret Blackburn in 1865. Died 1869. Two children were born to them, Jessie Elizabeth and Sarah. Jessie Elizabeth married George D. Eynon, of Cambridge. Three children were born to them, George N., Grace M. and Robert S. Sarah married James C. Sarchet, of Cambridge. They have one son, Ernest White Sarchet, who married Katherine Stevenson, of Janesville, Ohio.

Elizabeth White, only daughter of John and Elizabeth White, married Anthony Blackburn, of Cambridge, Ohio, in 1864, and soon afterward removed to the latter place. She died in 1865, leaving no children.

John White, youngest son of John and Elizabeth White, was twice married, first to Fannie Crouse. They had four children: Elmira Mae, Horace T., Haines D. and Alice. Elmira married Clinton R. Moore. They had four children: John R., Fred L., Marion E. and Norman. John married Mabel I. Miser. They had two children, John R. and Marion E. Fred married Etta Mae Linum. They are without children. Marion E. is single. Norman is deceased. Horace T. married Gertrude March. They have three children, Haines D., Harold Crouse and Paul. Harold Crouse married Margaret Clair. They have one child, Paul. Haines D., of the Phoenix Motor Company, Phoenixville, Pa., married Mary Emma Rice. They had one child, Frances, deceased. Alice Edna married J. Warren Detwiler, deceased, without children. The second marriage of John was to Sarah Yost. They had no children.

Margaret, the only daughter of our grandparents, William and Mary White, known by us as Aunt Peggy, married John Bailey, of Honey Brook. They spent much of their life in Maryland but in their advanced years moved to Honey Brook and occupied the home provided for them by their father on a piece of land separated from his farm, where they died. They had three sons, **William, George and Andrew**. The first two died, single in their young manhood. Andrew died during the present year. He was a blacksmith and followed his trade for some years in Honey Brook. Later he moved to Wallace township and was in the mercantile business up to the time of his death. He was twice married; first to Hannah Trego, of Honey Brook. They had two children, Amy and Joseph. Joseph married

Clara Robinson. They had two children, Earl and Idela. Andrew's second marriage was to Blanche Guthrie. They had a child, Lawrence.

Thomas White, second son of William and Mary White, married Catherine Marple, daughter of Joseph Marple, of Honey Brook. He removed to Fayette County, near Con-
nellsville, Pa., and followed farming. Both he and his wife died there. They had a son Marple, deceased and a daughter, Mary. Marple was a school teacher. He removed to Illinois and married Sarah Rankin. They had two children, Thomas and Lucius. Thomas married Mary Erb. They have two children, Alfred and Earge. Lucius married Jane Watson and have two children, Russell and Catherine. Neither of original parents are living.

Mary, the sister of Marple, still living, married David Gilmore. They had one child, Elizabeth. She married Paul Beighly. They have six children, Marion, Eleanor, Margaret, Ruth, Mary and Paul. On the death of her husband, David Gilmore, Mary married George Brown.

David White, third son of our grandfather, William White, married Elizabeth Buchanan, whose mother was a Piersol and sister of his brother John's wife. Each was our Aunt Betsey and were distinguished as Uncle John's Aunt Betsey and Uncle David's Aunt Betsey. They passed the most of their married life on a farm in West Nantmeal and there their four children were born and their nephews and nieces found a warm welcome in their family. In their advanced years, they moved to Honey Brook borough and there died. The oldest daughter, Margaret, married a neighboring farmer's son, John Shingle. There were born to them seven children, Howard, Clara, Annie, Sarah, Cassie, Frank and Edward. Howard married Margaret Parker. They had four children, Walter, Frank, Allen and Hazel. Walter married Tamzen Patton. They had one child, Harvey. Allen married Cora Lawrence and had no children. Hazel remained single.

Clara, the daughter of John and Margaret Shingle married William Waters. They had one child, Edgar, who married Sarah Yoder. They have two children, Janet and Edgar. The second daughter of the original Shingle family, Annie, married Horace Handwork. They had three children, Frank, Clarence and Cora. Frank married Louise Barr and had one child, Harold. Clarence married Mollie Cheritz and had one child, Clarence. Cora remained single. The third daughter of the original Shingle family, Sarah, married James Given. Their children were John, Mabel and Luther. John married Catherine Yohn and had one child, Sara, who married Harry Whiteman. Mabel

married Levi Ammon. Their children were Anna, James, Gladys and Helen. Luther married Iva Miller. Their children were Wilmer, Florence, Albert and Leon. The fourth daughter of the original Shingle family, Cassie, married David Byerly. Their children were John, Ralph and Clara. John married Helen James. Their children were Bettie, David and John.

Ralph is deceased. Clara married Van Garrett. They had one child, Robert. Frank of the original family is deceased. The seventh of the family, Edward, married Elizabeth Loomis. Their children were Clara, Florence, John, Bessie, Arthur and Margaret. Clara married Wm. Sypherd. They had one child, Catherine. Florence married Earl McLaughlin. John married Myrtle Groub. Bessie and Margaret remained single.

We have in this record of John and Margaret Shingle 67 descendants including those married into the family.

Mary White, second daughter of David's, married Edwin Smedley of Uwchlan Township. Their children were Clinton and Elizabeth. Clinton married Elizabeth Towell. Their children were Mary and Leon. Elizabeth married Wayne Smedley. Their children were Bertha, Edwin and Jessie.

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The third daughter of David's, **Elizabeth**, married Levi Milligan; their children were Emma, Irene, Elmer, Mars, Minnie, Bertha, Bessie, and Margaret. Emma and Mars are deceased. Irene married Frank Bewley, deceased. Their children were Levi, Bertha, Fred, Mae and Elizabeth. Levi married Grover Schaeffer and had two children, John and Fred. Fred married Jennie Stauffer. They had two children, Gerald and June. Elmer, deceased, married Belle Ludwig; their children are N. Maud, Arthur, L. Pearl and Beatrice. N. Maud married John B. Fisher; their children are Lawrence, Harold, John and Robert. L. Pearl married F. Chester Bechtel; their children are Chester and Emma. Beatrice married A. Bengarzone and had one child, Beatrice, Jr.

Minnie married Harrison Nagle and had one child, Gerald. Bertha married Harry Foust and had two children, Ralph and Mary. Bessie married Harold Fillman and had two children, Ruth and Lewis. Margaret is unmarried.

William, the fourth child of David and Elizabeth White married Isabella Given. They had two children, John and Mae. John married Ida McCully and they have two children; John and Warren. Mae married Willard McConnell and had four children; Ethel, Anna, Roy and John. Ethel

married Henry Taylor. They have two children; Anna and Mary.

Andrew White, fourth son of William and Mary Graham White went while single to Warren Co., Illinois where he lived the life of a farmer. He married Lucinda Miller. The children born were Wilson, Charles, John and Elizabeth.

Wilson married Louis Phillips. They had one child, Bessie, who married Harry Albright, who I understand is a minister. They have three children, John, Wilson and Phillips. They live in California as does Charles, the second son of Andrew White who married Annie Vorrath. They have no children. John and Elizabeth are deceased.

We come finally to review the descendants of the youngest child of William and Mary Graham, named after his maternal grandfather, *Michael Graham*, generally spoken of and alluded to as Grimes White. He married Catherine Dampman, daughter of Peter Dampman and Rebecca Wilson Dampman. They had nine children, Mary G., William P., Rebecca A., Peter D., Fannie B., Esther J., Rees H., Flora L. and John G.

Mary married Wm. Gosnell. Had no children. William, who assumed as a middle name that of Prescott, the historian, to distinguish him from other William Whites, may be pardoned as the oldest living member of the family a professional, and your historian, to state that he grew up on the original farm and did hard work on it until he was 21. Two previous winters he attended the Millersville State Normal School, became a school teacher, taught Latin and Greek for two years in a Normal School of Pennsylvania; graduated from Amherst College, Mass., in 1867; from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1870, was ordained to the Gospel Ministry and was pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, Pa., for 13 years and of the Mt. Airy Church of Phila., 9 years and has been Secretary of Lincoln University, Chester Co., Pa., for 33 years, and engaged along with it in editorial work for the same length of time. He was twice married, first to Mary Reed of Philadelphia. They had four children; John McGill, William Reed, Harry Graham, Katherine Dampman. All are deceased and their bodies along with their mother rest in the Honey Brook Presbyterian Cemetery. John McGill graduated from Princeton University and while in editorial work with his father, died of heart disease. Katherine graduated from Wilson College and while at the head of a leading young ladies seminary of New York City, died of cancer. The second marriage referred to was to Annie McKean of Washington, Pa. Two children were born;

William McKean and Wray Prescott. The former, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, now President of the White Mfg. Co., of Elkhart, Ind. He married Carol Gehri. They have two children, Wm. McKean and Marjorie Carol. Wray, after going around the world as a marine on the Roosevelt Battleship Fleet, married Elizabeth Green. They have four children; William Prescott, Betty J., Eleanor C. and John McGill after his deceased brother. The father is the Michigan agent of the Federal Electric Sign Co., of Chicago.

Rebecca, the second daughter of Michael G. and Catherine White, married Amos Ranck, a neighboring farmer. They had six children; Clarence, Joseph, Florence, May, Herbert, Fannie and Edward. Clarence is single and lives in Denver, Colo.; Joseph, president of Bridgeport National Bank and Secretary and Treasurer of the Diamond State Fiber Co. married Emma Harvey. They have one child, Josephine. Herbert is Reading Railroad agent at Joanna, Pa. and married Clara Lippey. They have three children; Esther, Catherine and Margaret. Esther married Stanley Clark. They have one child, Stanley. Catherine married John Strock and they have two children, Herbert and Charles.

Florence Mae married Robert Duffield who is deceased. They had no children. Fannie, second daughter of Amos and Rebecca Ranck married Warren Barklely. They have four children, Joseph, Rebecca, Florence and Francis. Joseph, who was over seas, in the aviation corps, married Elva Lister. They have one son, Joseph.

Edwin D. Ranck, fourth son, married Grace Robinson of Duluth, Minn. and have a son William. He was active in Young Men's Christian Associations and was sent with wife to Johannesburg to found an Association there and later was a district Representative in France during the world war. He is still active in Y. M. C. A. work and manager of a lamp firm's business in Toronto, Can.

Peter D. White, second son of Michael G. and Catherine White, remained single and was in business in Parkesburg at the time of his death.

Fannie B. White, now deceased, upon her parents' death removed to Philadelphia, where she was for years at the head of a well known children's Home.

Esther J., for years engaged as a school teacher, married Benjamin Crawley, now deceased. They had one child, Norman, deceased.

Rees H. occupied for years the farm of father and grandfather before removing to Honey Brook where he has

been a Magistrate for 28 years. He married Ella Brown, deceased. They had one child, Marion, who married James Wallace, who was wounded and gassed in the world war and died later from its effects. They had no children.

Flora L., single, a graduate of West Chester State Normal and Michigan University has spent her life in teaching, having been the last 12 years at the head of a flourishing select school in Tampa, Fla.

John G. went west and died in Albuquerque, N. Mex. his body was brought back and interred with parents, brother and sisters in Honey Brook Cemetery.

This completes the historical record in brief of the descendants of William and Mary Graham White, the former having died only 65 years ago and being remembered by several of his grandchildren. Those living number considerably over 300. It is doubtful if another family in Honey Brook or probably in Chester Co. can equal this in number.

Two facts in connection with it are deserving of notice. The first is the prominence given to home and family life through the large number of marriages and birth of numerous children. Very few of these descendants remained single. There was evident observance of the command of the Lord to our first parents and later to Noah and his sons; "Be fruitful and multiply and replenish the Earth." Not all agreed with a recent advocacy of the Anglican Church that the number of children to a family be limited to five.

The second fact alluded to as deserving of mention is that in a review of the character and social and public standing of so large a family of descendants little, if anything of a serious nature is found for censure or condemnation or to be seriously ashamed of. Not all may have been free at times from criticism or reproof but I have failed to discover any to whom is attached opprobrium, dishonor, impurity, immorality or crime. In respect to this I feel like quoting the following lines from Edgar A. Guest

There's no glory like to this, there's no gift from fame,
Which excelleth children grown, worthy of their name!
Strive for fortune as you may, but as time shall go,
If with joy your age shall shine, they shall make it so.

Here's the summit of success, when the race is run:
Not the wealth which you have gained, not the tasks you've
done,
But at last to sit and see, all your babies grown,
Sturdy men and woman true, fit to stand alone.

If fathers leave to their sons a rich heritage, "abusing or despising it," as has been truly said, "is a disgrace which

no generation has any right to permit to itself." "The more a man believes in his ancestry, the more obligated he is to do his utmost for his posterity. Anybody can have ancestry and he can claim no part in having made it what it was but if he has worthy posterity, it is because he had done his share in making it what it is." Earnest men have their chief concern vested in their children, not in their fathers. Let us here today take this to ourselves, and remember it.

I think as descendants, we may congratulate ourselves that we have, to a great extent, at least, honored our ancestry in our observance of religion and respect for, and support of the church.

While the original stock was Presbyterian, our grandparents coming from Brandywine, being among the first members of the Honey Brook Presbyterian Church, yet similar circumstances tending to separate other families in this country into different denominations operated also in the White family. These were environment and marriage.

John, the oldest son was converted in the Methodist Church in Honey Brook when it was the only church in the place and all his children became associated with it. Thomas, the second son, married a Methodist and this decided that church for his children. David, the third son, moved into a section where the Methodist was the only church and his children naturally grew up in that denomination but a daughter married a Quaker and hence some descendants belong to that body. My sister, brought up a Presbyterian, as were all her brothers and sisters, married a Methodist and all her six children became Methodists, but as showing the effect of environment, a son for a time active in parents' church, moving to a new locality and finding more congenial associates in the Presbyterian fold, united with that body, and is now one of the active ruling elders in a prominent Presbyterian Church. Had we time and opportunity, it would be interesting to discover in what other denominations members of the White family have come to be members of, through marriage or environment.

Equally interesting is a review of the political associations of members of the family. In the early years of our grandfather, William White, the political parties of the country were the Federalist and the Republican. Each supported Washington for the Presidency. Following him John Adams was elected by the Federalists and served for four years. He was defeated for a second term by Thomas Jefferson of the Republican Party. The Whites were members of that party which later divided into Democrat and Whig. Grandfather and sons were adherents of the Demo-

cratic party and most of them continued for years to faithfully support it, as I very well remember. Two of the sons, however, removing Westward, became associated with the Whig party, which made way later, previous to the Civil War, for the organization of a new party, the Republican, and the former political unity of the White family can now hardly be said to exist. Some of its members remain loyal to the political faith of their fathers and are well known democrats. But as in the case of the church, certain circumstances have caused division in the ranks and it would be interesting to know what proportion of the family have strayed from the ancient faith and are found browsing in newer political pastures.

With this, fellow members of our own White family, I close the history which you asked me to prepare, having traced it from a few ancestors, who left their Ireland homes in the early part of the 18th Century for the shores of America, up to their numerous and prosperous descendants of the present day.

We ought to be exceedingly thankful for the way the Lord led those ancestors and prospered them and for the heritage they bequeathed to us.

As I have reflected upon it and thought of his goodness to us and our children there has come to my mind a favorite hymn which you will pardon me for repeating as I close:

“He leads us on by paths we did not know
Upward he leads us, though our steps be slow;
Though oft we faint and falter on the way,
Though storms and darkness oft obscure the day,
Yet when the clouds are gone,
We know He leads us on.

He leads us on through all the unquiet years,
Past all our dreamland hopes, and doubts, and fears
He guides our steps; through all the tangled maze,
Of losses, sorrows, and o’erclouded days,
We know His will is done,
And still He leads us on.

And he at last, after the weary strife,
After the restless fever we call life,
After the dreariness and aching pain,
The wayward struggles which have proven in vain.
After our toils are past
Will give us rest at last.”

“We know not what beyond may lie
But live in humble faith
Into a larger life to die
And find new birth in death.”

The Edwards Press, Honey Brook, Pa.

